

The Weekly Messenger.

SATURDAY, JULY 14.

WEIGHED AND WANTING.

A system of high customs duties was adopted in the United States after the war of the Southern rebellion, to provide the Government with means to pay off the enormous debt created by that struggle. For different reasons it would have been better to have had less anxious haste to clear off the debt, and to allow the burden of war expenditure to be distributed over a longer period, if indeed a moderate tariff would not have returned as much revenue in the long run as the extreme one employed. Chiefly would that have been better in saving the country from falling into the policy of so called protection to native industry, for the high tariff, imposed in the first case to meet a grave national call for funds, became soon regarded as a necessity to create and support industrial life in the country. One of the immediate effects of the high duties was to make prices of everything higher than they were before the war. The result of higher prices was naturally an effort by capitalists to produce as much manufactured goods in the country as possible and sell them at the enormous profit made up by adding duties and foreign freights to the cost of manufacturing. Therefore, under a high tariff the people pay tribute to home manufacturers for what goods of theirs they buy equal to that they pay the Government for goods bought of foreign make. This system of double taxation cannot, however, go on forever without creating problems the solution of which tends to destroy it. In proportion as the home manufacturers can supply the needs of the country does the Government lose revenue from imported goods and do they come into sharper competition with each other. Of course, the effects of increased competition are to reduce their profits and to crowd the home market with their productions. The cost of manufacturing being greater in a country with high customs duties, its manufacturers cannot meet those of free trade countries upon even terms in foreign markets, and, besides, with foreign goods discouraged at home trading with other countries is made still more difficult. Relief from too much competition and over-production at home cannot, for those reasons, be obtained in foreign markets. Recourse in their distress is therefore had by the protected manufacturers to a variety of methods, such as combining to keep up prices, to have the tariff raised still higher and to limit production, and lengthening the hours of labor and cutting down the wages of their dependents. These all, however, have been proved in experience to be unavailing, and finally comes the shutting down of factories and the turning adrift of hundreds of working people. Protection thus at length ceases to protect, while the taxation involved in it remains intact, as burdensome if not as unjust when it goes into the public treasury as when it fills the private purse. This is now proving to be the case, particularly, with regard to the woollen manufacturing industry of the United States, which was one of the most highly favored by the tariff. Nearly half of the woollen mills of New England have stopped work for the present, and it is conjectured that about one-third of the woollen mills in the whole country are idle. In the recent revision of the tariff the woollen duties were left unchanged except where made higher, but all

to no purpose, as seen above. Protection has been given a better trial in the matter of wool and woollens than almost anything else, besides all the natural advantages that wool raising and manufacturing possess in America, and if the result does not teach wisdom to advocates of protection, nothing will.

IRISH NEWS.

Mr. Parnell's testimonial fund has reached eighty-five thousand dollars.

An industrial exhibition was opened in Cork on the third of July. The Irish lace exhibition in London has proved a failure.

Government officers have discovered at Limerick railway station a basket of revolvers, which has caused great excitement, as the weapons are thought to belong to a revolutionary party supposed to exist in Munster, Leinster and Connaught.

A cowardly and brutal outrage was committed at Ennis upon a farmer named Griffey. His house was entered by a party of disguised men, two of whom held him in bed while another shot him three times in the legs, shattering his knee. A man named Cunningham, supposed to be an Invincible, has been arrested on a charge of being concerned in the shooting.

Four men named Rogerson, Tansey, Kelly and Houghton have been found guilty at Sligo of conspiracy to murder, and Tansey was sentenced to fourteen, Rogerson twelve, Houghton eight and Kelly two years of penal servitude. It was proved that, in obedience to the orders of a secret society, they attempted in March, 1882, to blow up Weston House, Galway, with dynamites. Their contract was for five hundred pound, if they succeeded in killing the inmates, and two or three hundred pounds if they did not take life. Through unskilful handling five pounds of dynamite exploded on the window sill of the house did little damage.

When Lord Cavendish and Mr. Burke were foully murdered in Phoenix Park, Dublin, Irishmen everywhere, in the press and otherwise, expressed abhorrence of the crime, and in some cases a belief was uttered that the murderers were not Irishmen at all, but enemies of Ireland who desired to draw down on the Irish people fearful vengeance. Since the murderers were caught and found to be Irishmen, however, a change came over the professions of Irish agitators on both sides of the Atlantic. First, they began railing at the methods of procuring the conviction of the assassins, and by the time all the latter who did not save themselves by treachery were hung, meetings of Irishmen were ready to proclaim their executed countrymen martyrs, and to advocate assassination and the use of explosives as just methods for securing Ireland's freedom from the English rule. Large meetings of this nature have been held in New York, Chicago and elsewhere, at which the audience warmly applauded expressions of approval of the Phoenix Park murders and appeals to the use of deadly weapons and explosives. Resolutions expressive of similar sentiments were adopted at the New York meeting.

CASUALTY.

A disastrous fire has burned a large part of the town of Astoria, Oregon.

John Murphy lost his life on the railway track at Ansonia, Connecticut, while saving the lives of his two children.

It is now estimated that one hundred and fifty persons lost their lives in the recent anchoring accident in Glasgow, Scotland.

Heavy floods in Surat, India, have caused great damage to property and some loss of life.

Little Bay village, Newfoundland, has been visited by a fire, which left the greater portion of six hundred inhabitants homeless.

The familiar story of young children being left alone in a house and mischief befalling them is repeated from Joliet, Illinois, where two of James Mullhern's children in that position set fire to the house with fire-crackers and were burned to death.

During a grand temperance celebration at the Botanical Gardens, Sheffield, England, when thousands of school children were upon the grounds, a number of children climbed upon a dray horse, which, becoming frightened, caused a panic in which two were killed and many injured.

Lightning has been doing much damage in Ontario. At Kincardine on the third instant the Masonic Hall, Combe's block and the Standard office were struck, a loss of two thousand dollars being caused. Hailstones as large as eggs dropped during the storm, and a gale of wind did much injury to property. On the same day lightning struck a building at Stayner, and taking a devious course, tearing things up as it passed, ended by striking F. B. Sanders, Egbert Crankfield and Charles Adamson, all of whom had a remarkable escape from death. A little girl named Manie Jolly was struck by lightning in her father's house in Toronto, and died from the effects. John Ross was struck, while on the road near London, and instantly killed.

CRIME.

John Reed, a famous rifle marksman, has been arrested at Staples Mill, Minnesota, for murdering his sweetheart at Syracuse, Illinois, twelve years ago.

In an attempt to escape made by convicts in the State Prison at Salem, Oregon, three were killed, two wounded, while eight got away and some of the officials were wounded.

Bridget McClure, New Haven, Connecticut, had asked Thomas Connolly, a widower of thirty-two, to marry her, and upon receiving his refusal she threw vitriol in his face.

J. Dawson, in Ottawa, quarrelling with his wife at noonday, threw a brick at her, which missed its mark but struck a young child of his own and, glancing off, struck a four-year old child named Brownson, injuring it so that recovery is doubtful.

On a recent night Marshal Hensley, with Ben Bagley and four others, set out from Greensburgh, Kentucky, to arrest James Owen, a desperate fellow, on a felony warrant. Reaching his house at midnight, they found it defended by Owen and a party of friends he had gathered to resist arrest. Fifty shots were exchanged, Hensley being killed and Bagley mortally wounded. The other members of the force fled.

James Nolan, a half-breed of fifty-two years, eloped lately with a white girl of fifteen from Middle Musquodoboit, Nova Scotia. William Miller, the girl's father, gave chase, and overtook the pair as they were entering Sheet Harbor village. Upon Nolan refusing to give up the girl, Miller fired at him, shooting him badly in the arm. Before the magistrate Nolan was committed to gaol and Miller was dismissed on his personal recognizances to appear when wanted.

An awful tragedy is reported from the wilds of Colorado. When Grand county was created in 1879 the seat was located at

Hot Sulphur Springs, but at the election in the following year the people changed it to Grand Lake. Afterward the matter was taken into the courts, and in the meantime hatred was cherished between the rival factions. The commissioners of the county were Barney, Day, Mills and Webber, and Day and Mills were in favor of declaring the vote illegal which created Grand Lake the county seat. A few days ago the commissioners had the regular meeting at Grand Lake, and decided to declare the office of county treasurer vacant because he would not file satisfactory bonds. Day, Webber and the clerk named Dean stayed at a boarding house, near which was a pine thicket. On their way to the place of meeting one morning they were fired upon from the thicket by four masked men, all being shot down almost instantly. One of them before falling shot one of the assailants dead, and then the others disappeared. Citizens startled by the firing arrived on the scene, finding Day dead and Webber and Dean mortally wounded, besides the dead body of one of the murderers. Tearing the mask off the latter they found it was Mills, the other county commissioner. When the news was brought to Hot Sulphur Springs the residents became intensely excited, and shortly before dark twenty well-armed horsemen left for Grand Lake and a terrible fight was expected when they would meet the desperadoes.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY.

White & Co., an old-established wholesale lace firm of Toronto, have failed.

The corner-stone of a second sugar refinery has been laid in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The Union Bank of Lower Canada made two hundred thousand dollars of profits on last year's operations.

Notwithstanding the dulness usual to midsummer, commercial reports indicate a full movement of farm produce, general merchandize and coal, and a better state of the iron trade, together with a continued improvement in crop prospects. The number of failures last week in the United States has exceeded that for the preceding week and the corresponding week in the past two years.

Ten thousand iron workers on strike in Staffordshire, England, marched with banners to Dudley, Port Tipton, and Moxley, and quenched the fires in the iron works. Work was stopped at many of the furnaces, the police being powerless against such a mob. At length, however, when the mob dwindled the police charged and arrested twelve of the ringleaders. Later the men held a mass meeting and resolved to continue the strike.

Heavy rains have come to the relief of the crops threatened with drought in the Red River valley, Minnesota and Manitoba. Immense damage has been done to crops in the neighborhood of Brattleboro, Vermont, by a very severe thunder storm. The Iowa crop report for July shows increased average and better prospects for corn, wheat, and low last year for winter and about equal for spring, and an increased acreage of oats in slightly better condition than same time last year. Wheat in France will be a poor crop this season, but barley and oats promise well. Extremely hot weather in Germany, it is feared, will damage the crops. The wheat crop in Italy falls below the average.

Two or three hundred miners at Ely, Vermont, struck work last week, having been kept out of their pay for two months.

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Mr. MATT GOVERNOR

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